

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/EP2003/013482



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P036319/WO/1	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/EP2003/013482	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 01 December 2003 (01.12.2003)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 22 January 2003 (22.01.2003)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B62D 5/04, 6/00		
Applicant DAIMLERCHRYSLER AG		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). These annexes consist of a total of <u>4</u> sheets.
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 06 August 2004 (06.08.2004)	Date of completion of this report 24 March 2005 (24.03.2005)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP Facsimile No.	Authorized officer Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP2003/013482

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☐ the international application as originally filed
- ☒ the description:
 pages 1-15, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the claims:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages 1-11, filed with the letter of 17 November 2004 (17.11.2004)
- ☒ the drawings:
 pages 1/2-2/2, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item. These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

 International application No.
 PCT/EP 03/13482

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-11	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-11	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-11	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

1. D1, which is regarded as the closest prior art, discloses (see page 13, lines 1-9 and claim 2; the reference signs in parentheses refer to D1) a:

method for synchronizing the operating position (ΔLR) [LR = steering wheel] of the steering wheel (1) and the steering angle ($\Delta Ritzel$) [$Ritzel$ = pinion] set for the steered vehicle wheels (11) for steering using an allocation function that can be adjusted by means of a control or regulation device (41) and that is between the operating position (ΔLR) and the steering angle ($\Delta Ritzel$), after the activation of the control or regulation device (41) that follows a non-operation of the control or regulation device (41), the momentary operating position (ΔLR) and the momentary steering angle ($\Delta Ritzel$) being compared, taking into consideration the adjusted allocation function at that moment, and in the event of a positional deviation (ΔLR , target - $\Delta Ritzel$), a relative displacement takes place in order to reduce the positional deviation (ΔLR , target - $\Delta Ritzel$) between the operational position (ΔLR) and the steering angle

(deltaRitzel),

from which the subject matter of claim 1 differs in that

the relative displacement takes place only if, after or during the activation of the control or regulation device, a request criterion is satisfied in addition to a positional deviation being present.

- 1.1 Therefore, the subject matter of claim 1 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).
2. The problem to be solved by the present invention can therefore be regarded as that of preventing the risk, for example, of someone getting trapped by a relative displacement during repair work when the system is activated.
3. The solution to this problem as proposed in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step for the following reasons (PCT Article 33(3)):

The fact that the relative displacement takes place only if a request criterion is fulfilled in addition to a positional displacement being present after or during the activation of the control or regulation device is neither known from nor rendered obvious by the available prior art.
4. The same reasoning applies to independent device claim 11. Therefore the subject matter of claim 11 is likewise novel and inventive (PCT Article 33(2) and (3)).

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5. Claims 2-10 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore likewise meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.
6. Industrial applicability is established in the field of motor vehicle manufacturing.